

Nov. 21, 2001

# CHECKLIST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

## MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS

### Region 6, Migratory Bird Stamp Project

Project Name: Teigen Wetland Restoration Project	Proposed Implementation Date: December 2001
Proponent: Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP)	
Type and Purpose of Action: This project entails the removal of a culvert in a ditch plug to restore a 10.4 acre wetland.	
Location: Township: 34N Range: 57E Section: 19	County: Sheridan

#### I. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

1. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT, AGENCIES, GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED: Provide a brief chronology of the scoping and ongoing involvement for this project.	FWP met with Bob Teigen to discuss the details of the project and Bob has given his consented to the project.  FWP contacted DNRC about water rights associated with the restoration and has informed FWP the water rights are not necessary for a wetland restoration.
2. OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES WITH JURISDICTION, LIST OF PERMITS NEEDED:	Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) - an agreement will be signed between Bob Teigen and FWP agreeing to the projects with a 30-year contract life.
3. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:	Alternative A. Construct project as described: Preferred Alternative Alternative B. No Action Alternative: under this alternative, no restoration would be constructed on this site at this time.

#### II. IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

RESOURCE	[Y/N] POTENTIAL IMPACTS
	Not Present or
	Impacts may occur

II. IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT	
4.GEOLOGY AND SOIL QUALITY, STABILITY AND MOISTURE: Are fragile, compactible or unstable soils present? Are there unusual geologic features? Are there special reclamation considerations?	[y ] topsoil will be conserved and spread back over disturbed sites. Reclaimed sites will be seeded to a native grass seed mix.
5.WATER QUALITY, QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION: Are important surface or groundwater resources present? Is there potential for violation of ambient water quality standards, drinking water maximum contaminant levels, or degradation of water quality?	[y ] the proposed restoration project would capture up to 3.0 acre-feet of water at a given time. This will have a negligible impact on downstream flows.
6.AIR QUALITY: Will pollutants or particulate be produced? Is the project influenced by air quality regulations or zones (Class I airshed)?	[n ]
7.VEGETATION COVER, QUANTITY AND QUALITY: Will vegetative communities be permanently altered? Are any rare plants or cover types present?	[y ] the proposed reservoir would inundate 10.4 acres of ground currently in grassland cover.
8.TERRESTRIAL, AVIAN AND AQUATIC LIFE AND HABITATS: Is there substantial use of the area by important wildlife, birds or fish?	[y ] the proposed reservoir project is designed to provide maximum benefit to breeding waterfowl and a variety of other game and non-game wildlife occurring in the area.
9.UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE OR LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES: Are any federally listed threatened or endangered species or identified habitat present? Any wetlands? Sensitive Species or Species of special concern?	[n ]
10.HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES: Are any historical, archaeological or paleontological resources present?	[n ] There are no known historical sites occurring at the site. Archaeological clearance was granted by a USF&WS archaeologist.
11.AESTHETICS: Is the project on a prominent topographic feature? Will it be visible from populated or scenic areas? Will there be excessive noise or light?	[n ]
12.DEMANDS ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES OF LAND, WATER, AIR OR ENERGY: Will the project use resources that are limited in the area? Are there other activities nearby that will affect the project?	[n ] the wetland project will rely primarily on seasonal spring flows which originate on the parcel. Excess flows will enter the drainage through a natural spillway. The 3.0 acre-ft capacity will have little impact on flows in this drainage.
13.OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS PERTINENT TO THE AREA: Are there other studies, plans or projects on this tract?	[n ]

III. IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN POPULATION	
RESOURCE	[Y/N] POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES
14. HUMAN HEALTH AND SAFETY: Will this project add to health and safety risks in the area?	[n ] the low capacity and fill height of the proposed restoration pose negligible downstream risk.
15. INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND PRODUCTION: Will the project add to or alter these activities?	[y ] the proposed project would provide limited income for an earth-moving construction company
16. QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT: Will the project create, move or eliminate jobs? If so, estimated number.	[n ]

17. LOCAL AND STATE TAX BASE AND TAX REVENUES: Will the project create or eliminate tax revenue?	[n ]
18. DEMAND FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES: Will substantial traffic be added to existing roads? Will other services (fire protection, police, schools, etc) be needed?	[n ]
19. LOCALLY ADOPTED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS AND GOALS: Are there State, County, City, USFS, BLM, Tribal, etc. zoning or management plans in effect?	[n ]
20. ACCESS TO AND QUALITY OF RECREATIONAL AND WILDERNESS ACTIVITIES: Are wilderness or recreational areas nearby or accessed through this tract? Is there recreational potential within the tract?	[y ] This tract supports some wildlife recreation. The proposed project may enhance these recreation opportunities.
21. DENSITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AND HOUSING: Will the project add to the population and require additional housing?	[n ]
22. SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND MORES: Is some disruption of native or traditional lifestyles or communities possible?	[n ]
23. CULTURAL UNIQUENESS AND DIVERSITY: Will the action cause a shift in some unique quality of the area?	[n ]
24. OTHER APPROPRIATE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES:	[n ]

EA Checklist Prepared By: Jeffrey A. Gross Wildlife Biologist

Date: November 21, :

IV. FINDING	
25. ALTERNATIVE SELECTED:	
26. SIGNIFICANCE OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS:	
27. Need for Further Environmental Analysis:	
[ ] EIS      [ ] More Detailed EA      [ ] No Further Analysis	

EA Checklist Approved By: Jim Satterfield Regional Supervisor  
Name Title

## Teigen Project - Map 1

Location of wetland restoration and  
brood water (T34 N, R57E, Section 19)

Drainage  
Ditch

10.4 Acres

Note Section 19.

Location of  
embankment  
with culvert.

